

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 EPA-01 SSO-00 COME-00
NSF-01 PM-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
DODE-00 L-03 DLOS-09 SMI-01 INT-05 ICAE-00 /068 W
-----063024 150123Z /13/46
O 141655Z JUN 78 ZDK ZUI TRUE C/C RUEHSD 0731W
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3095
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 2 AND 3 GARBLED)

DEPT PASS EPA FOR SHOSTAL

DEPT PASS NOAA FOR MARTINEAU

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TOCY, SENV, PLOS, UR, US
SUBJECT: SOVIET REPLY TO R/V "WESTERN VIKING" CLEARANCE
REQUEST, JUNE 15-JULY 20

REF: A. STATE 149407 B. MOSCOW M 13425

1. EVENING OF JUNE 14 MFA REP GAVE EMBOFF DIPLOMATIC
NOTE (INFORMAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION IN PARA 3 BELOW),
WHICH STATES THAT SOVIETS DO NOT OBJECT TO THE PROPOSED
R/V "WESTERN VIKING" RESEARCH IN THE BERING AND THE
CHUKOTSKIY SEAS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF RESEARCH WITHIN
SOVIET TERRITORIAL WATERS. MFA REP CONFIRMED TO EMBOFF
THAT SOVIETS ARE REJECTING U.S. REQUEST TO CONDUCT
RESEARCH WITHIN TWELVE MILE LIMIT FROM SOVIET COAST.
IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF QUERY ABOUT REASON FOR REFUSAL
WITHIN TWELVE MILE ZONE, MFA REP INDICATED THAT HE HAD
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RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO MAKE ANY COMMENT BEYOND
THE CONTENTS OF THE NOTE. EMBOFF NOTED THAT HE WAS
UNABLE TO COMMENT ABOUT THE EFFECT OF THE SOVIET IMPOSED
RESTRICTION ON THE PROPOSED SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OF THE
"WESTERN VIKING".

2. COMMENT: AT RECEPTION EVENING JUNE 13 METAL'NIKOV OF SCST INFORMED EMBOFF THAT AS OF THAT TIME ALL BUT ONE OF THE "COMPETENT SOVIET ORGANS" WHICH HAD BEEN CANVASSED ABOUT "WESTERN VIKING" REQUEST HAD SENT IN POSITIVE REPLIES. METAL'NIKOV NOTED THAT HE EXPECTED U.S. WOULD RECEIVE FAVORABLE ANSWER ON JUNE 14. METAL'NIKOV REFUSED TO IDENTIFY ANY OF THE "COMPETENT ORGANS" WHICH HAD BEEN CANVASSED, BUT EVIDENTLY, THAT "ORGAN" WHICH HAD NOT RESPONDED BY COB JUNE 13 ADDED THE RESTRICTION WITH REGARD TO SOVIET TERRITORIAL WATERS. METAL'NIKOV ALSO ADDED THAT UNDER PRESENT STATUS OF SOVIET LAW, IT IS ONLY NECESSARY TO SEEK PRIOR PERMISSION FOR MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, WITHIN THE SOVIET TWELVE MILE ZONE, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF RESEARCH IN THE FIELD OF MARINE LIVING RESOURCES WHERE THE SOVIETS APPLY THE 200 MILE LIMIT. HOWEVER, METAL'NIKOV ADDED THAT SOVIET AUTHORITIES ARE CURRENTLY PREPARING DRAFT REGULATIONS WHICH WILL PROBABLY REQUIRE PRIOR PERMISSION FOR ALL MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WITHIN THE 200 MILE ZONE AND WILL REQUIRE THAT REQUESTS BE SUBMITTED TWO OR THREE MONTHS IN ADVANCE. METAL'NIKOV INDICATED THAT ANY SUCH REGULATIONS WOULD NOT COME INTO FORCE UNTIL AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE LOS CONFERENCE.

3. TEXT OF SOVIET NOTE: "THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, REFERRING TO NOTE NO. 805 OF THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AMERICA, DATED MAY 24, 1978, STATES THAT THE SOVIET COMPETENT ORGANS DO NOT OPPOSE THE CONDUCT BY THE AMERICAN SIDE DURING JUNE 15 - JULY 20 OF A SURVEY OF BOWHEAD WHALES IN THE REGIONS BORDERING ON THE BERING AND CHUKOTSKIY SEA COAST OF THE USSR, UP TO TWO HUNDRED MILES IN WIDTH, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SOVIET TERRITORIAL WATERS. MOSCOW JUNE 14, 1978."

4. ORIGINAL NOTE POUCHED TO EUR/SOV. TOON

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PORT CLEARANCES, WESTERN VIKING, WESTERN VIKING R/V
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW13687
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780250-0945
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197806111/aaaaf1rx.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 9d224f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 149407
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2174003
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 970821
Subject: SOVIET REPLY TO R/V "WESTERN VIKING" CLEARANCE REQUEST, JUNE 15-JULY 20
TAGS: PLOS, SENV, TOCY, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9d224f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014